FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MANAGERS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REFUGE,

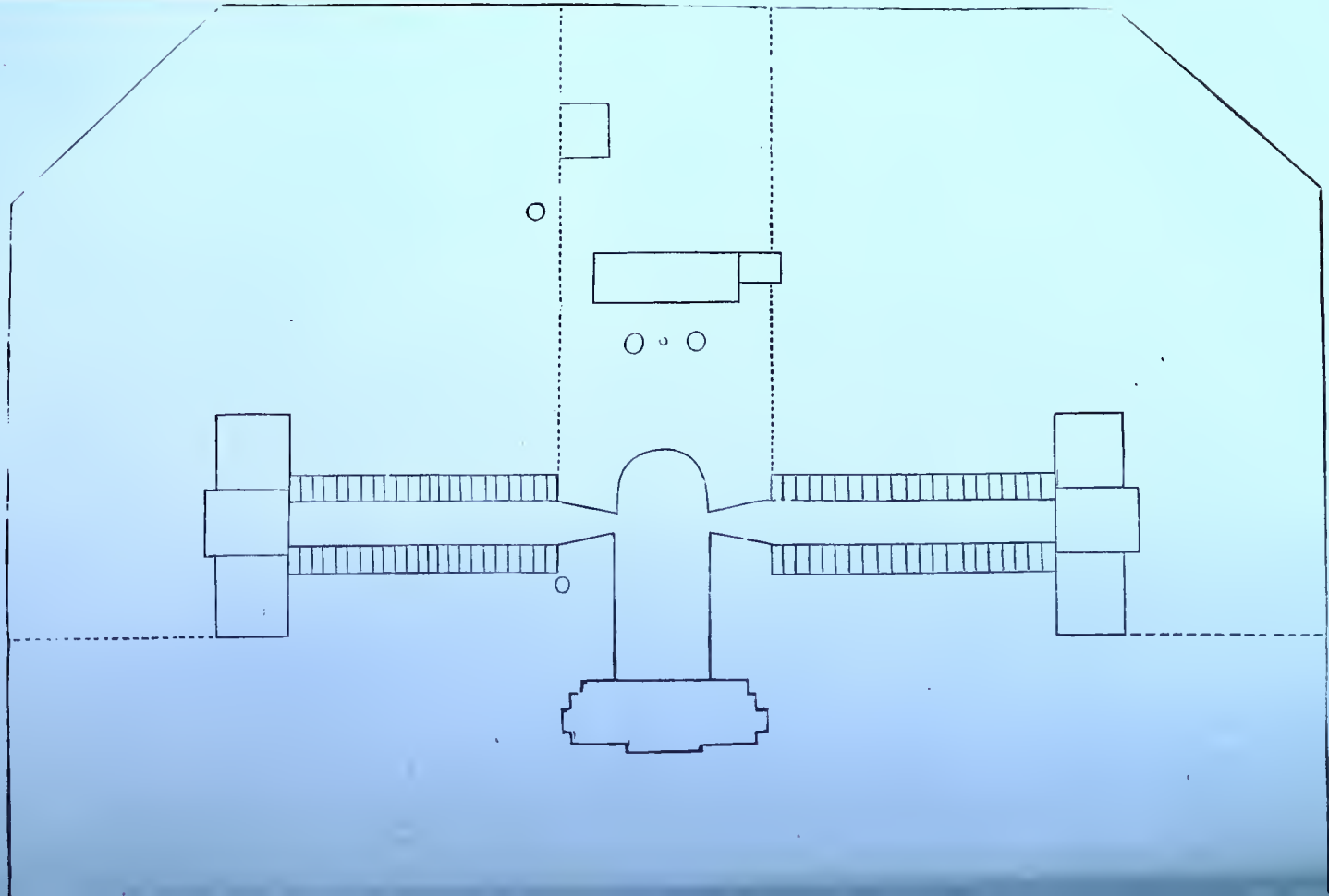
MADE TO THE

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND,

JANUARY, 1856.

BALTIMORE:
PRINTED BY JAS. LUCAS & SON,
STEAM PRESS,
Corner of Calvert street and Lovely Lane.

1856.



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FORM OF A BEQUEST.

Money Legacy.

"*I give and bequeath unto the* 'House of Refuge,' (*incorporated by the General Assembly of Maryland, Feb.* 1831) *the sum of*

to be paid to the Treasurer for the time being, for the use of said Society."

Devise of Real Estate.

"*I give and devise unto the* 'House of Refuge,' (*incorporated by the General Assembly of Maryland, Feb.* 1831,) [*here describe the property or ground rent,*] *together with the appurtenances, in fee simple.*"

Managers and Officers

OF THE

HOUSE OF REFUGE.

1855.

PRESIDENT:

GEORGE BROWN.

TREASURER:

WILLIAM BAKER.

SECRETARY:

Dr. JOHN J. GRAVES.

MANAGERS

ON THE PART OF THE CITY:

George Brown,	James F. Purvis,
William Baker,	B. M. Corner,
Dr. John J. Graves,	Thomas M. Abbett.
Charles M. Keyser,	A. Fuller Crane,
Francis T. King.	George A. Davis.

ON THE PART OF SUBSCRIBERS:

Charles F. Mayer,	B. A. Vickers,
Rev. H. V. D. Johns,	Dr. J. I. Cohen,
Charles D. Slingluff,	A. D. Kelly,
Benjamin DeFord,	Thomas Swann,
J. B. Seidenstricker.	Thomas Wilson.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Messrs. KEYSER, GRAVES, SLINGLUFF, DAVIS, DEFORD.

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Messrs. VICKERS, ABBETT, CORNER.

INDENTURING COMMITTEE:

Messrs. COHEN, KING, WILSON.

LAW COMMITTEE:

Messrs. MAYER, SWANN.

SCHOOL AND CHAPEL COMMITTEE:

Messrs. KELLY, JOHNS, ABBETT, CRANE, VICKERS.

LADIES' COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Margaret White,
" Julia A. Wilson,
" A. J. Graves,
" B. Deford,
Mrs. James H. Wilson,
" Francis T. King,
" C. G. Snow,
" Charlotte Butler.

SUPERINTENDENT:

WM. HOULTON.

MATRON:

Mrs. SOPHIA L. SAWYER.

PHYSICIAN:

THOMAS F. MURDOCH, M. D.

TEACHER:

H. S. FORWOOD.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Honorable,

The General Assembly

of Maryland:

In compliance with the provisions of their charter, the Board of Managers of the House of Refuge beg leave to present their fifth annual report.

It is with peculiar pleasure that the Board make the announcement, that after long continued, and at times, the most disheartening obstacles, their labors have been rewarded at last with the final completion of their buildings and their actual occupation by inmates. "In the name of the God of the poor, the light and the balm of the erring, we have laid this corner stone of a temple of humanity." Such was the solemn dedication of this enterprise by our eloquent colleague who addressed us on the occasion of the commencement of our labors. Just four years had passed from that event, when on the fifth day of December last, with appropriate ceremonies was celebrated the conclusion of those labors, and with our fellow citizens assembled on the beautiful eminence where stands our noble structure, the blessing of the same God was invoked, with a psalm of thanksgiving for the past and fervent prayers in rustfulness for the future.

It would be a grateful employment to enter at large upon the history of our institution since the date of its charter in 1831. It would be indeed not inappropriate to the present occasion, also to give a sketch of the origin of these Houses of Refuge in this country, for in their peculiar modifications they may be claimed to be of American origin. The institutions at Mettray, Petit Bourg and other places in France, and the school at Berlin, and various parts of Germany are, we believe, of older date and have in view similar objects of charity, but those in the United States have still their own and original features. Great Britain too has her Parkhurst and other prisons for boys, but these also differ in many and important respects from our own. To enlarge here upon this very interesting topic would occupy too much perhaps of that space which belongs to the single object of this report. A few notes thrown into an appendix may however gratify those who feel an interest in inquiries on the subject.

In former reports and memorials, the Board have taken some pains not only to lay before the General Assembly the claims of the House of Refuge as a work entitled to the special patronage and support of the State, but also, the details of their undertaking as regards the structure, capacity and cost of their grounds, buildings and appurtenances. This renders it unnecessary in the present communication to add any thing in this connection, particularly as it is sincerely desired that the members of your honorable body will take an early opportunity to make themselves personally acquainted with the Refuge in all these respects.

By a reference to the Treasurer's general statement (A,) it will be seen that on the first day of January the total expenditures on all accounts, say for the site, construction, furnishing and current house expenses to that date, were *one hundred and fifty-one thousand six hundred dollars and twenty-seven cents*, while the receipts from all sources were *one hundred and sixty-two thousand three hundred and*

seventy-two dollars and forty-seven cents, leaving a balance in the treasury, with which to commence the year, of *ten thousand seven hundred and forty-five dollars and twenty-seven cents;* from which sum again, is to be deducted for bills unpaid, say, in round numbers, four thousand dollars; thus showing an actual available balance of six thousand seven hundred and forty-five dollars. The annual statement (B,) for the year just closed, will also be found annexed.

After this statement of the finances of the Refuge, the next and important question to be submitted for consideration, is the means to be provided for its future support. What already has been accomplished, has been solely by the large-hearted liberality of private subscribers, and the munificent aid of the City Council. Pursuing the same system of economy that has governed the Board in all its expenditures, they have provided only a very reduced corps of officers, and have received only a limited number of inmates. Here, then, we now stand: thankful to a good Providence for what we have been able to achieve, congratulating ourselves that we have erected within the borders of Maryland an edifice of which she may well be proud, with no lien or mortgage, and no obligation or debt that cannot at any time be paid, and ready and anxious, if means be supplied, to carry out its beneficent object to its fullest capacity. Thus far, the Board have failed in their appeals to the State. It may be, and we are so disposed to look at it, that these failures were the best means for the trial of the goodness of our cause, the sincerity of our purpose, and the strength of our will. No doubt, also, for the rejection of these appeals by the Legislature, there were honestly deemed to be many and good reasons. We know that it was said by some to be a scheme of visionaries. Others looked upon it as merely a local affair, having no claim upon the State; while others again expressing the heartiest interest in the cause, still

thought it inconsistent with the condition of the treasury and the desire to lessen or abolish the State tax, to make donations of any kind, even for the most worthy object. The time had not yet arrived, it was said, for the State to be generous, while the claim upon her was so strong first to be just. There seemed, indeed, to be some cogency of argument in this, when it was recollected through what financial difficulties she had just passed, even to the desperate suggestion of repudiation and the violation of her pledged faith as a Commonwealth. Most happily was she saved from this deep degradation. Her safety was only in taxation, and while this burden still lay heavily upon her citizens, it was perhaps only natural that she should close tight her treasury even against the claims of so philanthropic a cause as the moral reclamation of her juvenile delinquents.

The time now seems more auspicious of success, for the Board, in common with their fellow-citizens throughout the State, are rejoiced to know that the public credit of Maryland stands thoroughly redeemed, her debt is yearly diminishing, her people are prosperous, and her treasury was never in a better condition; and it is therefore that they deem the period to have arrived when they may safely entertain hopes of success in the renewal of their application.

The experience of those who early entered upon the work of juvenile reform in other cities, has stimulated the Board to persevere in the accomplishment of their own undertaking. Independent of this, however, they were urged forward by the essential excellence of the object itself. They have hoped to do for Maryland what has been done in other States, and it now remains to be seen to what extent, even at this late day, she will respond to their exertions. They would desire to convince the Legislature of the propriety of their present appeal, through its judgment rather than its sympathies, and to receive a

favorable consideration upon the true merits of their claim. They do not hesitate to hold up the object of their institution as pre-eminently one of commanding public utility, and as specially entitled to the support of the State. Their enterprise is not an experiment, but a living fact. Their moral duties have commenced. They have inmates to provide for, and necessarily, officers to pay. The number of the former is too small at present to make their labor pecuniarily productive, although all are employed; and so far they diminish the disbursements for current domestic expenses. Before the next session of the Legislature two years hence, there is, however, every probability that the House will be filled to the extent of its capacity, and it is in anticipation of this event that the Board are under the necessity of exercising a due forecast in providing the requisite means for continuing the operations of the institution, not only until that period, but permanently, by a fixed annual resource or appropriation. Our present corps of officers is kept down to the very lowest number, and consists only of a superintendent, a matron, a teacher, a gate-keeper and a messenger. But when fully organized, this number will necessarily be increased more than fourfold. The salaries of these alone, estimating the cost by what is paid for the same service in New York and Philadelphia, will be between seven thousand and eight thousand dollars per annum. The cost *per capita* of the inmates for food, clothing and other personal incidentals, will be about one hundred dollars annually, including the expense of salaries, fuel, lights, books, furniture, &c., &c. The Board give these dry details as a basis upon which the required appropriation may be estimated at least approximately.

To those not familiar with the expense of conducting public institutions of this kind, the Board are aware, that at first sight the sum required, always appears extravagant. But, a moment's reflection will satisfy even the

most economical that the cost of the care of from three hundred to four hundred juvenile inmates, to clothe them, feed them, educate them, and to instruct them in some useful trade or employment, must of necessity be much greater comparatively than the support of the same number of prison inmates. At the first glimpse it will be noted, that the difference in physical capacity for productive labor between the adult and the minor is as at least five to one, for of those already committed to the Refuge, their ages range from eight to fifteen years, and none are admitted over the age of sixteen years. It is true, that the guardianship of the Board extends over them until the expiration of their legal minority, but it is the policy of the Refuge system to supply them by indenture with masters so soon as they shall be taught the elements of a plain English education and their reform shall have been satisfactorily established, and experience has shown that this occurs on an average, after about two or at the farthest, three years control and instruction. Besides this great physical difference as a matter of pecuniary remuneration, the Refuge is entirely different from the prison discipline. As expressed in our charter, our object is "*to reform and not to punish.*" In the prison all is labor,—in the Refuge the great object is reclamation and moral education; to these labor is only subservient.

Our time table is divided between instruction in the school, labor in the shop, and healthful out-door recreation. And with all the advantage of adult capacity and continued labor, how very few prisons are self-sustaining. When properly organized and economically managed a Refuge will pay about one-fourth of its cost. With from four hundred to four hundred and fifty inmates, the New York Refuge is sustained, as we see by their stated report, at an annual expenditure of about forty thousand dollars, and the productive labor of its inmates yielded for the same time, something over nine thousand dollars. In the

way of labor the Board have determined to adopt the contract system. For every reason this is the best, as it incurs no outlay for materials, machinery or special overseers. Thus no loss is sustained by depreciation of stock, interest on cost, bad debts for sales, and other incidental expenses. But, twelve months will be required to get into full operation and this must necessarily add to the first year's cost of supporting the institution. These details may seem to be too much extended, but the object of the Board is to afford all necessary information, that nothing may seem to be hidden from the proper examination of the whole subject nor any obstacles thrown in the way of its just consideration.

In their present communication it is not for the Board even most distantly to advise by any suggestion, how the aid required for the support of the Refuge may be best provided. They appear before the Legislature with their plea in behalf of a great public and indisputably merciful object, making indeed some little claim of merit, but not with vain boasting, of what they have already been able to achieve, and in the name of humanity and the highest interests of the Commonwealth, asking for aid to perfect the one paramount object of their institution, the reclamation of the erring, misguided, the poor outcast young of her population.

Whatever may be the condition of delinquents, neglected by parents, corrupted by example or depraved by a perverted moral sense, still they belong to a common brotherhood with each one of us all, and in their responsibilities to God, many and early as may be their vicious propensities or their criminal acts, still do they claim with us all a common fatherhood. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethern, ye have done it unto me," is the utterance of Omnipotence itself. Man surely may not disregard this sacred assurance with impunity; religion may not, society may not, and can the

Commonwealth through its representatives of all these relations throw back its legitimate duty upon the individual constituent and so hope to escape the retribution that must assuredly follow upon the neglect of this word of All Merciful benevolence? If the State will not pay for the prevention of crime, nothing can be more certain, than that the cost to her will be manifold greater for its punishment. This is an axiom that cannot be controverted. And who is responsible for all this? Upon whose ear from the deep gulf of lost souls should the cry of despair fall with its fearful imprecations? As there is a God of justice, so sure will that cry not go unheeded, so sure will retribution fall where responsibility rests, so sure will society incur the penalty, and so sure will the State be condemned to pay that penalty. Who can look around him and say that this penalty is not even now being exacted? The jail no longer has its disgrace, nor the penitentiary its terrors, nay, even the gallows itself seems to have lost its awful warning. In all this is there not already a terrible retribution? Let the prison records be examined, let the history of the prisoner be told, and what a deep cry of condemnation would startle society, (could it be made to listen,) for its neglect in reclaiming the young delinquent in his first step in the progress of crime. *But none cared for him and he was lost.* And here again it is asked, upon whom rests the responsibility of this loss? Let not his brother man idly hope to avert the just condemnation. "Am I my brother's keeper," will avail as little now as when uttered by the first murderer. "All ye are brothers," and upon our hands as men, as christian men, as legislators,—upon society, upon the State devolves with all its accountableness, the keeping of our brother, and wo unto him upon whose neglect or refusal of aid, rests the fearful end of a guilty, murdered soul.

And who can say, how many who have since gone down to dishonored graves, how many who even now may be the inmates of the prison and graduates in crime from the lowest to the highest school of infamy, might not have been saved had our Refuge been fostered into successful operation at the period of its first charter in 1831.* Judging from the results in other similar institutions, reading in their records so many instances of the young criminal becoming the worthy and even wealthy member of society, the honored father of an educated family and the consistent professor of religion; seeing how many have been checked in their early proclivity to vice and raised from the lowest degradation and ignorance, we think an answer to this question may safely be made, but it would be one, we fear, that would shock with its burning words of truth and its charges of grievous neglect and inhumanity. But this recurrence to the past we will not dwell upon. If it give rise however to proper reflection much may be hoped for from a wiser, juster and more considerate action for the future.

In what has been said, the Board have attempted to address themselves to the Legislature in behalf of the support of the Refuge as a matter of public duty. The argument might be greatly extended, but their object has been merely to sketch out a few points in the hope of exciting the deliberate attention of your honorable body. Much might also be added on the abstruser question of public economy. Upon this they will not dilate for fear of becoming tedious. It would however be an interesting theme for discussion to enquire, how much cheaper is it for a state to prevent crime than to punish its commission; of how much more value is it to reclaim the young delinquent than to imprison the old offender?

* Of the 410 convicts *now* confined in our State penitentiary,
4 are under the age of 15 years.
84 are between the age of 15 and 20 years.
Of the same aggregate number, 240 were born in Maryland: and of these, *seventy-nine* were born in Baltimore city.

Set aside then for a moment the great moral duty, and look at the subject in this pecuniary view, and who would hope to controvert the argument in favor of reclamatiou, even as a matter of economy? Sober reason certainly would not be unwise enough to engage in the undertaking. The plea of economy in every sense is a sound one. The sagacious statesman will not overlook it in his political ethics. In the virtuous masses he sees the bulwark of our very political existence. A virtuous people implies an intelligent people and hence it is that he extends his legislative support to public schools and every well devised scheme for the moral and mental amelioration of these masses.* It is the cheapest means to accomplish a great end. And who will deny that our School of Reform does not deserve a prominent place in the category of these means? We take the vicious and lawless boy whom neither the public nor Sabbath schools can reach with their influence, we place him under constant supervision, we break up his old and evil associations, we treat him with parental kindness but at the same time with unswerving decision; our first lesson is to teach him and make him feel that our guardianship over him has been assumed only for his own welfare, and when this lesson has been well learned by practical experience, and the required

* Our own table appended to this report shows that out of *nineteen* inmates, *eleven* had no education.

In the last report of our State penitentiary, to January 1st, 1856, we find the following educational condition of 410 prisoners:

Cannot read or write,	179
Can read but not write,	73
Can read and write,	149
Received a good edueation,	9

A large proportion of the first class are reported as negroes; but this does affect the argument as showing the connection between ignorance and crime.

We find the statement in the newspapers made by a collector of prison statistics, that "during the year 1854, 164 men were hung in the United States, for murder. Of this large number, *only seven* could read, write and cypher."

evidence of his reform is well established and a fitting education has been provided him we seek for him a good master to whom he is indentured, being very careful at the same time that he passes from our care only to one of whose habits, kindly disposition and moral character we have been well advised and whose residence shall be so far from the city or the old residence of the inmate as to incur no danger of a renewal of his early associations; but even here we do not pass him from us unforgotten, for an oversight is kept on his future course both by correspondence with his master and himself. This is a short sketch of our system, and how does it act?

Our own experience is for but little more than one month, yet even in this short time and with the charge of not quite a score of inmates, we have witnessed enough to satisfy even the most skeptical, that under the Refuge system more in the way of the reform of juvenile delinquency can be accomplished in a given time and at a given cost, than can be effected under any other mode having the same object in view. We have already seen the idle vagabond drilled into ready and systematic labor, the ignorant who scarce knew his alphabet taught to read easy lessons, the incorrigible trained to cheerful obedience, and we have been surprised to witness also, with what pleasure all yield to the great law of human kindness applied to suceptibilities which only needed this awakening and regenerating touch to call forth principles of honor, of truthfulness and just pride, and evidences of capacity and intelligence that hitherto had all lain dormant from neglect and destitution and pernicious example and practices. What the moral conditions of these inmates had been previous to their reception may be learned by reference to the table prepared by the superintendent, and to which we especially ask particular attention, (C.) This is only a fair specimen of what will constitute the mass of any future number that may be received. We would ear-

nestly beg that every item in this statement be carefully examined and seriously pondered, and then we would ask, whether a theme for the speaker on the platform or in the pulpit, who would imitate the divine example of the Preacher on the Mount, could be found more full of moving appeal, or more suggestive of words of burning utterance, or, of deeper charges of inhumanity against society for its cruel and reckless neglect.

In the police report of the high constable for the year just closed, may be found another and timely item for sober reflection. It is in a single line, but every word is weighty with a fearful prediction for the future interests of these young delinquents. *Three hundred and seven juveniles* seized by the officers *"for petty offences and discharged."** Discharged upon the community, how many of them, to pursue their early course of crime already commenced. And is it necessary to be urged as a question of pecuniary cost to the State whether these juveniles shall be stopped in their career while there minds are yet pliable to instruction and their hearts open to virtuous convictions, or whether they shall be left to go on hardened and incorrigible to the sure end of their course? If this argument of mere cost *must* be used to enforce conviction of the justice of the claim upon the Commonwealth for means to remedy this cancerous evil that is now eating so deeply into the moral being of her young population, then we stand ready to contend against all opposition from the sophist or the casuist, that as a question in political

*The last report of the Baltimore jail, to January 1st, 1856, shows the commitment of *eighty-one* white boys during the past year, on the following charges:

Breaches of the peace,	17
Felony,	37
Assault,	15
Arson,	2
Rioting,	7
Runaway,	1
Violation of city ordinances,	2

economy no axiom is more incontrovertible, no truth is more impregnable than the assertion here reiterated, that in every sense, whether as a question of moral duty or of pecuniary calculation, it is cheaper to reclaim and reform the young delinquent than to punish the old and confirmed offender. Wisdom so contends, experience so contends, political conservatism so contends, and if parsimony itself would make its estimate in figures and submit its judgment to their indisputable results, even here its cold and heartless convictions would so contend. But to so sordid a view as the last we would not desire to make an appeal. Conscious of the highly benevolent object of our enterprize, and its great vital interests to the State, not in her measured area of acres with her sectional feelings and local prejudices, but to the State in its broad, comprehensive sense, as a wise political institution in human government, we would invoke the action of your honorable body upon higher and holier motives, and upon these are willing to await your deliberation and decision.

And now in conclusion, the Board will only add, that impressed with a deep and abiding sense of the responsibility they have assumed, while complying with the requirement of their charter, they have seized the opportunity to urge upon the General Assembly a consideration of their present necessities. In the earnestness with which they have pressed their claims, they can safely offer in justification their conscientious convictions that philanthropy never presented for the consideration of the community a more wisely conceived scheme of moral amelioration than that of the House of Refuge. Its advantages as a school of reform, have been tested by years of experience in other States, and its utility proved by the most ample testimony. Since the first commencement of the operations of the Board, the truth has daily become more apparent to them that they did not set their hands to the work without the strongest demands of public necessity.

They trust that these demands will likewise be acknowledged by your honorable body, and that in your response they may find additional reason to rejoice that their labors have met with a sustaining recognition, which shall serve to urge them forward to the full consummation of their highest anticipations.

In behalf of the Board,

GEORGE BROWN, *President.*

JOHN J. GRAVES, *Secretary.*

January 19, 1856.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

Dr. HOUSE OF REFUGE, IN ACCOUNT WITH WILLIAM BAKER, TREASURER, *Cr.*

To cash paid for the site, (55 acres,)	$5,663 92	By cash received from private subscribers,	$29,048 30
" " main building, with wings,	112,288 80	" " proceeds of oratorio,	626 67
" " outer wall of enclosure, gateway with porter's lodge and examining room, and granite entrance steps,	11,686 09	" " legacy of Margaret Burke,	97 50
		" " " Fielding Lucas,	500 00
		" " " Mary Boyd,	100 00
" " ice house, kitchen building, fences and privies, $2,457 08		" Appropriations from the City Council, including proceeds of sale of "Bowers," or House of Industry lot, and paid, $95,000 00	
boilers and steam engine, 1,813 00	4,270 08	For support of the House, 12,000 00	
" " dam, rams, pipes, reservoirs, wells and general water account,	2,823 50	To be paid August 1st, 1856, but realized by loan on same as collateral, 25,000 00	
" " sewers, road, grading and labor,	3,061 00		132,000 00
" " interest,	787 85		
" " general expenses, including plan, surveys, insurance, examination of other institutions, stamps, printing, &c.,	1,764 52		
" " building superintendent,	4,666 65		
" " furnishing,	3,262 98		
" " house expenses, fuel, clothing, &c.,	1,351 81		
	$151,627 20		
Balance, January 1st, 1856,	10,745 27		
	$162,372 47		$162,372 47

WILLIAM BAKER, *Treasurer.*

BALTIMORE, *January* 1, 1856.

Dr. WILLIAM BAKER, *Treasurer, in account with the* HOUSE OF REFUGE, *Cr.*

1855.					1855.			
Jan. 1.	To balance on deposit with Alex. Brown & Sons			$805 40	Dec. 31.	By cash paid on main building and wings,		$13,996 06
19.	To cash from Baltimore Eq. Society for discount payable on 1st August, 1855,			6,250 00	"	" outer walls, gate house, &c.,		2,677 26
25.	To cash for discount on 5 bills			29 22	"	" ice house, kitchen, oven, furnace,		2,457 08
Feb. 2.	To cash from Firemen's Insurance Co., for discount, payable 1st Aug., 1855,			6,250 00	"	" steam engine, boilers, &c.,		1,813 00
"	" " " 1856,			6,250 00	"	" wells, &c., for water,		340 40
27.	To cash from Balt. Equit. Society, for discount payable on 1st Aug., 1856,			6,250 00	"	" sewers, roads, grading & labor,		1,891 86
	For donation of Dr. J. I. Cohen..,	$50 00			"	" general expenses, prior to July,		207 66
	Wm. E. Bartlett,	135 00			"	" interest and discount, to 1st August, 1856,		2,239 58
	Mrs. Harriet C. Friese,	5 00			"	" in full, Superin't of building,		916 65
	Mrs. Jane Baker,	5 00			"	" furniture,		3,221 11
	Mrs. Ann Jane Graves,	5 00			"	" house expenses, clothing, &c.,		1,017 68
	Miss Melissa Baker,	5 00			"	" Equitable Society on 1st Aug.,		6,250 00
	Miss Olivia Baker,	5 00			"	" Firemen's Insurance Company, 1st August,		6,250 00
	David Corbin,	10 00			"	" Eutaw Savings Bank,		12,500 00
	Mrs. Catharine Finlay,	20 00				By balance in the hands of Alex. Brown & Sons, on interest,		10,745 27
	Mrs. Reese, (Talbot co.)	50 00						
	S. S. Stephens,	50 00						
	Thomas Smith,	50 00						
	A. W. Poulson,	10 82						
	A. & W. Denmead & Son,	100 00						
				500 82				
	To cash for discount on 1 bill and error,	$24 50						
	Interest to March 31, of A. Brown & Son,	118 44						
	June 30, "	159 88						
	September 30, "	115 68						
	December 31, "	159 84						
				578 17				
Aug. 1.	To City of Balt. for ord. payable 1st Aug. 1855			25,000 00				
	Donation from George Brown, Esq.,			2,500 00				
	Legacy from Mary Boyd's estate,			100 00				
Sept. 30.	To City of Baltimore for general expenses,			12,000 00				
	Barrels &c., sold,			10 00				
				$66,523 61				

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Board of Managers
of the House of Refuge:

GENTLEMEN:

Six weeks only have elapsed since the inauguration and opening of this Institution; twenty inmates have been committed to its discipline and moral training, all of whom are (with one exception) in good health.

So short is the period in which the influences of this Refuge have been exerted, that it cannot reasonably be expected that any great improvement in the moral condition or education of those committed to our charge is visible. Yet, short as is the time, we are not without evidence of reformation calculated to inspire us with the confident hope that through the instrumentality of this retreat from vicious association, the erring may be reclaimed, and their character so remodelled, that instead of degradation and infamy being the inevitable consequence of their course of life, many, if not all of them, will become virtuous and industrious citizens.

Already we have the gratification to witness some improvement, morally and intellectually in several of the inmates, amongst whom two or three may be particularly mentioned: and *first*, a boy about fifteen years of age, No. 8, one of two twin brothers (both are here) committed as being incorrigible; his clothes were ragged and filthy, so much so as to render him loathsome, his habits were those of indolence, profanity and intemperance, he was entirely without

education. We soon discovered that under the influence of moral suasion and discipline he manifested a disposition to improve; he was obedient and truthful, and anxious to receive instruction. In a little more than two weeks he began to read in easy lessons; he has seldom been found to violate any of the rules of the institution, and such is the confidence reposed in him, that he has been sent to the city with a horse and cart, and performed his errand promptly and with much care.

Second. A boy about nine years old, No. 2, sent here from the alms house; he is an orphan and without friends or home; he like the first soon became truthful and obedient, and his conduct has rendered him a favorite with all in the house—he is devoted to his books and learns fast. There can be no reasonable doubt, that with the care and attention that will be bestowed on him, he will when he shall have arrived at a suitable age, be such a boy as can with safety be recommended to any worthy person wishing a good apprentice.

Third. A boy near sixteen years of age, No. 12, committed on account of vicious and uncontrolable conduct, charged with breaking the furniture and intentionally upsetting a stove with fire in it, in his mother's house, and of threatening to take her life. He has been here only about two weeks, and to our astonishment is now one of the best behaved boys in the institution. There being a carpenter at work on the place, he has been put under his instruction, and is doing well—the restrainng influence exerted over him, it is to be hoped, will tell well on his future history. There are others who might be favorably noticed, indeed there are none among the boys who have not improved to a considerable extent.

The most extraordinary change of conduct yet witnessed in the Institution, is that of a girl about 15 years of age, No. 6. She was committed to the Refuge at the instance of her father, on the 28th December, ult. On the next day, the Matron having required her to change her clothes, she refused to do so—the duty being insisted on, she became frantic with rage, cursed and abused the Matron in no measured terms,—for this she was ordered into confinement, to which she made resistance, and on being forced into a room, uttered the most profane and blasphemous language the human tongue could employ—threatening at the same time to

break every pane of glass in the window. This girl, under proper disciplinary treatment, has become one of the most tractable, humble and well behaved inmates in the house. She has been heard to thank God that she was sent to the House of Refuge, and has often wept on account of the pain she has inflicted on her parents, by the improper and infamous course of conduct she has pursued. It may not be amiss to state, she was taken from that sink of iniquity, known as the causeway.

To Mr. H. S. Forwood, Teacher and acting Assistant Superintendent, I owe much for the aid he has rendered, in promoting the discipline, as well as for the faithful manner in which he has imparted instruction to the male portion of the inmates.

I herewith respectfully submit the following exhibit of the condition of the several inmates.

WM. HOULTON, Sup't.

[C.]

TABLE

Showing the Moral Condition of the Inmates of the House of Refuge, when received, and the influences under which they lived.

Whole number received since the opening of the House,	19
Have parents, one or both of whom are or have been intemper'e,	10
" lost their Father,	8
" lost their Mother,	8
" Step Fathers or Mothers,	4
Who were idle, or had no steady employment,	17
" have been much neglected,	16
" " " truants from school,	7
" " " Sabbath breakers,	17
" " " untruthful,	17
" " " profane,	18
" " slept in sheds, under porches, &c.,	6
" " drank ardent spirits, most of them to intoxication,	11
" " been previously arrested,	5
" " been imprisoned for crime,	1
" " never regularly attended Sabbath School,	18

The information contained in the above table has been elicited from the inmates, their parents or friends.

Many other facts might be shown resulting from the companionship of evil boys and girls.

January 1st, 1856.

[D.]

TABLE

Showing the Ages of the Inmates of the HOUSE OF REFUGE—*for what offence—what Parents alive—Parents' Habits—Education and Habits of Inmates at the time of their reception.*

JANUARY 7TH, 1856.

No.	Sex.	Age.	For what Offence.	Parents alive.	Parents' Habits.	Education of Inmates.	HABITS OF INMATES.
1	Boy.	11 yrs.	Vagraney.	None.	Intemperate.	None.	Begging, being without home or friends.
2	"	9 "	Larceny & vagra'y.	None.	Temperate.	Can spell.	Wandering about the streets, without home.
3	"	11 "	Stealing & incorigi.	None.	Temperate & resp'e.	Knows something of Arith.	Truancy, idleness and viciousness.
4	"	8 "	Stealing & vagra'y.	Father only, in California.	Father intemperate.	None.	Wandering about, without home.
5	"	12 "	Incorrigible cond't.	Mother only.	Intemperate.	None.	Indolence and stupidity.
6	"	15 "	Stealing.	Father only.	Respectable.	Can read, write and cypher.	Reckless and incorrigible.
7	"	15 "	Vagraney.	Father and Mother.	Father intemperate.	None.	Idleness and dissipation, } Twin Brothers.
8	"	15 "	Do.	Do. do.	Do. do.	None.	do. do. }
9	"	15 "	Incorrigible cond't.	Father only.	Respectable.	Can read, write and cypher.	Truancy and vicious conduct.
10	"	12 "	Vagraney.	Mother only.	Intemperate.	Can read.	Idleness and evil association.
11	"	15 "	Vile conduct.	Mother only.	Temperate.	Can read.	Refractory and vicious.
12	"	14 "	Vagraney.	Father only.	Intemperate.	None.	Idleness and evil association.
13	"	10 "	Uncontrol'e cond't.	Fath. & Motb., Fath. in Cal.	Temperate.	None.	Conduct beyond the control of Mother.
1	Girl.	15 "	Do. do.	Mother only.	Temperate.	Can read a little.	Licentious and profane.
2	"	15 "	Do. do.	Father and Mother.	Intemperate.	None.	do. do.
3	"	14 "	Do. do.	Mother only.	Temperate.	Can read and write well.	Incorrigible and vicious.
4	"	14 "	Do. do.	Father and Mother.	Intemperate.	None.	do, do.
5	"	14 "	Do. do.	Do. do.	Not known.	None.	Prostitution and infamy.
6	"	14 "	Do. do.	Do. do.	Temperate.	None.	do. do.

[E.]

TABLE

Showing the birth places of the Inmates of the House of Refuge, and of their parents.

INMATES:		PARENTS:	
Baltimore City,	12	Baltimore City,	3
Anne Arundel County,	2	Eastern Shore of Maryland,	1
Somerset County,	1	Germany,	5
E. Shore of Maryland, (indefinite)	1	Ireland,	3
Germany,	2	France,	1
Ireland,	1	Unknown,	6
Total,	19		19

January 1st, 1856.

TEACHER'S REPORT OF BOYS' SCHOOL.

To the Board of Managers
of the House of Refuge.

GENTLEMEN:

In compliance with his duty, the teacher of the boys' school begs leave to submit a brief statement of the condition of his department.

The House was opened for the reception of inmates on the 6th December last, and on the 17th of the same month I entered upon my duties, at which time there were eight children placed under my care. The whole number now is *seventeen*, all of whom, with two or three exceptions, were extremely degraded in character; but even in the very short time since their entrance into the Refuge, it is gratifying to witness the general improvement in their education and deportment.

The following tables exhibit the condition of the boys at their entrance, together with the progress made in their instruction. They are necessarily very meagre in their details, but still they have their interest. They are submitted as the commencement of a system of regular forms, which, followed in after reports will become more and more useful:

Of those who did not know the alphabet,.....	9
" " could spell in two and four letters,.....	3
" " could read easy lessons of one syllable,.....	3
" " could read tolerably well,.....	2
	17

Were unacquainted with arithmetic,.....	14
Commenced in simple addition,.....	1
" " reduction,.....	1
" " the rule of three,.....	1
	17

Of those who had never studied geography,.....14
" " had studied in Mitchel's first part,..... 2
" " had studied in Mitchel's second part,..... 1

17

PROGRESS.

Can spell words of two and four letters,..... 7
Can read words of two and four letters,..... 3
Are reading in Swan's first reader,..... 2
" " in Swan's second reader,..... 1
" " Guernsey's history of the United States,..... 4

17

Are unacquainted with arithmetic,..... 9
Are in addition,..... 3
" short division,..... 1
" long division,..... 2
" the single rule of three,..... 1
" practice,..... 1

17

Are unacquainted with geography,.....11
" studying Mitchel's first part,..... 3
" " Mitchel's second part,..... 3

17

The majority of the boys sing well, and eight write in copy books.

Before closing, it is proper to acknowledge the receipt of a liberal donation of books, slates, &c., from Messrs. J. W. Bond & Co., and also of seventy volumes from the Maryland Tract Society, and from the Sunday School Union, fifty volumes of Union hymns, all of which have much increased the interest of the boys in their day and Sabbath school exercises.

HENRIE S. FORWOOD,
Clerk and Teacher.

JANUARY 19th, 1856.

APPENDIX.

[Note 1—page 4.]

BALTIMORE HOUSE OF REFUGE:

ITS HISTORY.

The original charter to establish this House of Refuge for juvenile delinquents, was granted by the General Assembly on the the 8th of February, 1831, (ch. 64). To the unwearied efforts of a member of the Baltimore Bar, the late Ebenezer L. Finley, and two or three other gentlemen whom he enlisted actively in the cause, and among these more particularly, the late Benjamin I. Cohen, is especially due the honor of securing this legislative act. Mr. Finley was an enthusiast in every thing that engaged his feelings; he was a man of unsparing generosity, of a most liberal hospitality and of an active, benevolent disposition. It is only due to his memory to place his name on record in this connection as the originator of our institution.

The first Board of Managers was organized on the 10th of March, of the same year, by the election of Alexander Fridge, as president, E. L. Finley, secretary, B. I. Cohen, treasurer, and Peter Neff, Christian Keener, Charles F. Mayer, Hugh Boyle and B. I. Cohen as the executive committee. Mr. Fridge having declined the appointment, Alexander McDonald was elected to fill the vacancy, and to him succeeded Stewart Brown, the last presiding officer under the old organization. All these gentlemen have since deceased with the exception of Messrs. Mayer and Keener; Mr. Mayer alone of his ancient colleagues taking place in the present Board, and after a quarter of a century had passed, enjoying the high gratification

of pronouncing the public address on the laying of the corner-stone of our now completed and occupied structure. In this, his pleasure is indeed enviable, and no doubt must mark one of the most grateful incidents of his long life of public usefulness.

Some but very insufficient means were collected from subscribers in furtherance of the object of the organization, but after many ineffectual efforts, the surviving managers finding themselves unable to make any progress in their work, finally resolved to disband; and with the consent of the subscribers and by authority of the General Assembly, the funds collected were appropriated, under the charge of Mr. Keener, to the promotion of the cause of temperance. The last record of the proceedings of the old Board is dated January 19th 1842.

Notwithstanding the unhappy result of this first attempt, public attention to the subject was not inactive, for in the year 1845, ch. 33, we find an ordinance of the City Council authorizing the creating of a *loan* of ten thousand dollars by the City for the erection of a House of Refuge on the present Alms House grounds. Nothing practical however resulted from this renewed endeavor to revive the subject.

In September 1847, a new movement was made, but in another form. Among the archives of the present Board may be found a small blank book, and on its first page, and in the hand-writing of the late Wm. George Baker, an earnest friend and one among the larger and earlier subscribers to the efforts so successfully carried to completion by the present Board, we find the following proposition which is here given as an interesting item in this sketch of our history :—

"For the purpose of erecting and establishing a House of Refuge for juvenile delinquents, we the subscribers, hereby agree to pay the several sums of money attached to our respective names, to the person or persons who shall be authorised by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to receive the same, whensoever the sum of ten thousand dollars shall be subscribed by individuals, and an additional sum of ten thousand dollars shall be appropriated by the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, for that purpose."

This proposal was signed by our treasurer, William Baker, with a subscription by him of one hundred dollars, and placed in the

hands of the Mayor, attention being called to the fact and its purpose through the public press. The only other person who placed his name on the list and with a like subscription was the late Richard Lemmon. But although exciting so little public interest, it did however have the effect of causing the subject of the establishment of a House of Refuge to be referred to in the annual message of the Mayor in 1848, but no action following upon the recommendation, the matter was again brought to the notice of the City Council in 1849, and, "so much of the Mayor's message as relates to the House of Refuge," was referred to a joint select committee of the two branches. Through this committee, a memorial was presented to the Council, Febuary 16th, 1849, signed by several gentlemen as a committee in behalf of many citizens, and asking for the establishment of such an institution at the hands of of that body. On the 6th of March the joint committee made an extended and excellent report, which resulted in the repeal of the ordinance of 1845, before referred to, and the passage of a resolution making a direct appropriation of ten thousand dollars for the erection of a House of Refuge, and also directing the sale of certain property known as "Bowers' Lot", being the remnant of a large lot purchased originally with the proceeds of a lottery for the erection of a "House of Industry," the title for which, for some reason was held in the name of the city, and upon the failure of that scheme of benevolence was used for municipal benefit. The proceeds of the sale of this remnant was appropriated for the special purchase of a site for the proposed building.

With these means at disposal, and it having been decided that the original act of incorporation was still valid, it was determined at once to reorganize the Board under its provisions. Several preliminary meetings were held at the City Hall by the friends of the cause, and upon proper representations being made for the purpose, the Governor with the consent of the Senate, and the Mayor with the consent of the City Council, each made the required appointments of Managers to represent the State and City in the Board, and at a meeting of the subscribers, this body was filled by the election of their representatives.

On the 19th of June, 1849, at a meeting of this Board, its full organization was completed by the election of George Brown as President, William Baker as Treasurer, and John J. Graves as Secretary, all of whom still hold the same offices.

In order the more deeply to secure the public sympathy in behalf of the Refuge, it was resolved to hold a general meeting of all who might feel an interest in the matter, and accordingly a call for that purpose was made for the 31st of October. As part of our history we insert a notice of its proceedings from a paper of the day.

"We attended the meeting at Brown's Buildings last evening, and were gratified to find that the subject had elicited a very general interest in the community. We believe all denominations were represented, and represented by able and efficient men. A few minutes after the appointed hour, Mr. Brown, the President of the Board of Managers, took the Chair, and briefly stated the object of the meeting, and informed the audience that the gentlemen who had kindly consented to address them were present and ready to go on, if a motion to that effect was made. The Secretary, Dr. Graves, then gave a brief glance at the efforts heretofore made to accomplish the erection of a House of Refuge and their failures, and expressed the opinion that the object would at last be accomplished, as the public feeling seemed to be fully aroused to its importance. The Doctor stated that invitations to be present had been extended to the corporate authorities and the Governor of the State, and as it might possibly stimulate the zeal of others, to know the sentiments of the Governor, he read the following note, which had been received in reply from his Excellency. After expressing his regret at not being able to attend the meeting, he says:

* * * * * * * * * * * *

'I feel, I assure you gentlemen, a profound interest in the accomplishment of the humane object of your meeting, and shall feel obliged for any suggestions that it may occur to you to make, in advance of the meeting of the Legislature of the State. It is my purpose to call the attention of the General Assembly to the subject, and I shall be pleased to be in possession of your views.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't servant,

PHILIP F. THOMAS.'

Before the meeting adjourned, Mr. Brown said that he was greatly pleased with the feeling abroad in the community; that it was highly favorable to the completion of the work. He had called on many—*none refused;* many had given, and all had promised; and he believed that before the next meeting, he should be able to collect five thousand dollars for the object.

The audience adjourned in high spirits, and we hope will realize their most sanguine expectations, at the adjourned meeting on Tuesday evening next."

To attract even a larger attendance, so that the subject might be made to secure as great a share as possible of the public interest before commencing a general canvass of the city for subscriptions,

the invitation to the adjourned meeting was especially made through the press under the signatures of gentlemen present. The result was most cheering; indeed from the date of this meeting, the 6th of November, the mark for ultimate success was fixed; it is true, that it has proved more distant than was anticipated but it has been made sure. As a matter of record for future reference the proceedings as then published are here given at length, as making an important part of our sketch.

"*House of Refuge Meeting.*—Agreeably to the public notice, quite a large meeting of citizens, a large proportion of whom were ladies, was held at Brown's Saloon, Baltimore street, last evening, with a view of aiding in the furtherance of the project to erect a House of Refuge for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents in the City of Baltimore.

The meeting was called to order by George Brown, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Managers for the erection of the House; Dr. J. J. Graves, acting as Secretary. Mr. Brown introduced the Rev. Dr. R. Fuller to the audience, who arose and offered the following preamble and resolution:—

Whereas, Society sustains towards its members a relation which is tutelary, and is bound to exert itself for their moral welfare; and whereas in large cities especially, there devolves upon the community a sacred duty to provide for the reformation of the young. Therefore

Resolved, that the citizens of Baltimore be solicited at once to erect a House of Refuge for Juvenile Delinquents—an asylum entirely reformatory in its character, differing from a jail and almshouse and penitentiary—the whole economy and discipline of which shall be parental towards the youthful offenders of each sex, sheltering them from evil communications and educating them to habits of industry and virtue.

Dr. Fuller proceeded to address the meeting on reading the above. He said he was happy to identify himself with this movement—as one who had come to live and die in Baltimore, he felt a deep interest in every thing that is an advantage to the city. It was a movement in which every christian must feel an interest. He proposed confining himself to a single point—the duty of every community to make provision for the reformation of its youthful offenders—on which the eloquent speaker enlarged at length in a highly interesting manner.

It was an error to make large provisions for the punishment of crime, and none for its prevention—there must, he said, be a penal code, and that code must be enforced—there must be some punishment for crime, and let that punishment be as certain as the peal follows the flash, and many men would shrink back from it who are now guilty. Crime always has hope of escape—that hope is sufficient to encourage him when passion is strong. But it is more

important to prevent than to punish crime—society should guard over the young, and how can it be accomplished in any better way than in that which is now proposed. Youthful offenders were locked up with hardened felons in our jail, and when they are turned out they are utterly profligate and abandoned—the jail has been a thorough school, in which he has learned and perfected himself in every villainy. The papers of the city have all done their duty in relation to this project—and no one who has read their columns, but must be impressed with the necessity of a refuge for the young. The proposed House of Refuge would be a place where parents could place incorrigible children; when they could be placed under that restraint which was impossible in many families, and have a parental care extended over them. We have the proofs of the benefits derived, in the reports of similar Institutions in other cities—there we can see those who have been reformed and who have ever been grateful for it.

He wished to enlist the sympathes of the citizens in behalf of this undertaking here, and urged their interest in it. It was an institution eminently the friend of the poor man—the friend of the son—the friend of the daughter of the poor man whom it takes under its care. Self-defence calls upon us to engage in this undertaking—every bank, insurance company, and citizen should take a deep interest in it. Whence came the midnight incendiary, the murderer, the robber, the violators of the public peace? We were bound as the heads of families to take a deep interest in every thing that concerns the public welfare. Efforts have been made before for the accomplishment of this object; all must now have faith in it—the heart of the city is right, then have faith in its citizens. Have faith in these young culprits, and have faith in God, for he must smile upon this benevolent undertaking. Let us have this thing done, and done at once. Let, among our monuments, this glorious monument of charity go up. I am tired of passing resolutions and making speeches—let us go to work, and at once. If resolutions and speeches could have reformed the world it would have been done long ago, and there would have been nothing left for us to reform.

The Rev. Mr. Smith was next introduced to the meeting. He addressed the audience in reference to the general aspects of the undertaking, alluding to the numbers of evil-disposed children, and their lawless acts, throughout our city, and the necessity of some means for their reformation, none of which were better than that now proposed. The influence of contact between the evil boy or girl upon a family and the community was great, and extended to an unlimited extent. The great object was not wholly the reformation of an evil youth, but to cut off the great entail of evil which is inflicted on the community by example. A House of Refuge would be a school to teach habits of virtue and industry, and would secure all the objects designed to be subserved. It would secure the offender from all evil influences, sunder all ties of association,

and educate him—raise him up from animal propensities and place him in the position of a man.

Mr. Smith having concluded, the chairman put the preamble and resolution offered by Dr. Fuller, which were unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Wm. Fell Giles was then introduced to the audience, who arose and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that in view of the urgent necessity for the establishment of a House of Refuge in this city, and of the high claims of such an institution to the attention and support of the community generally—the Board of Managers be requested to appoint an agent or agents to canvass the city for the purpose of obtaining subscriptions to aid in its establishment.

Mr. Giles followed in an address replete with interesting and important statistical facts. Allusion was made to the praiseworthy and successful efforts twenty years ago, of a humble cobbler of Portsmouth, England, who used every effort to reform the evil boys of that city, and taught during his life some 500 of them. The efforts of Mr. Watson, late sheriff of Aberdeen, Scotland, in establishing industrial schools in that city, and their success was also shown. The first houses of refuge in this country were in New York in 1825, in Philadelphia in 1828, and in Boston in 1836. In each of these cities juvenile depravity has decreased, whilst in Baltimore it has increased. In Baltimore in 1840, in our criminal court, there were 1,203 indictments for crimes, exclusive of license cases, and in 1848 there were 1,569 indictments, showing an increase of 356 in the number in ten years. The majority of these cases were under 25 years of age, and more than one-third were under 20 years of age.

In 1840 there were 1,252 commitments for crime to our jail, but in 1848 there were 1,551 commitments. In 1840 the juvenile commitments were only 21, but in 1847 they were 126, and in 1848 they were about 100. This shows a fearful increase of crime in the young of our city. Idleness, said Mr. Giles, is the fruitful source of crime, especially with the young, and it is to their reformation, their care, we should direct our attention. Of the number who have been inmates of the New York asylum, the directors assert that three-fourths have gone away thoroughly reformed. The subject was forcibly impressed upon the audience in a very eloquent address.

The resolution offered by Mr. Giles was put by the chairman, and unanimously adopted.

Subscriptions to the amount of upwards of $1,000 were received, when the meeting adjourned. A very large sum is anticipated when the public are waited upon."

At the time of the reorganization under the original charter, many of its features were considered objectionable, while more were to be added which the practical experience of other institutions had sug-

gested. It was therefore determined to apply to the Legislature for a supplementary act, which accordingly was done and resulted in the enactment of ch. 374, passed March 7th 1850.

In the mean time the Board had not been idle in regard to other important matters. Urged on by the cheering countenance of the community, and the very liberal donations subscribed, no labor was spared to secure immediately a site for the proposed building. After the examination of several locations, on the 25th of June, 1850, an order was passed for the purchase of the one now occupied by our buildings. It may be here added, that the selection has proved in every respect a happy one; and its elevated position, comparative isolation, and yet convenient distance from the city—its healthfulness and very many other and valuable advantages have been the subject of admiration to all visitors, and of gratulation to the Board.

After selecting their architectural plan, it was determined to commence at once upon the erection of the outer wall of enclosure, which was to include within it not less than five acres, and on the third of October, a contract for erecting the same was entered into, under the direction of a building committee consisting of Messrs. Baker, Alexander and Graves, which at a subsequent day was enlarged by the addition of the President *ex-officio*, and Messrs. Hamner, Mayer and Cohen. Mr. George A. Davis was immediately thereafter appointed building superintendent, and retained the very responsible station until the completion of the buildings, and their first occupancy by inmates; and it is only right in this place to say that very much is owing to his economical management and skill as a builder, that the Board have been enabled to finish their commanding structure, at its comparatively low cost, and at the same time in so substantial and effective a manner.

In June 1851, contracts were made for the erection of the main or central building, and eastern wing, and on Thursday the 23d day of October, the corner stone was laid—the Governor of the State, the Hon. E. Louis Lowe, earnestly leading in the interesting ceremonies; the address on the occasion being made by Charles F. Mayer, Esq., and the religious services conducted by the Rev. Drs. Johns and Hamner.

In February 1852, flattered by the continued and active interest exhibited by Governor Lowe, particularly by his eloquent and

statesmanlike appeal in our behalf in his annual message, it was determined to address a memorial to the Legislature, asking for pecuniary aid. This was accordingly done and prosecuted with some zeal, but the application failed; and again in 1853, the Board renewed their petition, but were again doomed to disappointment; and now by an act of the General Assembly, ch. 404 passed March 30th, 1853, the representative connection of the, State with the Institution as provided for by the charter, having been dissolved, the Board was made to consist of ten managers each, representing only the City and the Subscribers. Under all these circumstances, the Board having expended so large a sum of money, with contracts upon their hands, and so much yet to be done, and unwilling to make a new appeal to their fellow citizens who had already given so largely of their private means, it was determined, in their painful necessities to throw themselves upon the public spirit of the City Council as their only resource, feeling at the same time that to fail here would indeed be most disastrous. To aid the success of this appeal, the President of the Board, as a mark of the great interest felt by him in the prosecution of the work, and to which he had already set his hand with a most liberal donation, addressed the following note to the secretary:

BALTIMORE, 17th June, 1853.

JOHN J. GRAVES, ESQ.

Dear Sir:

I think it best to state on paper what I propose to do for the House of Refuge. I do not intend my subscription should apply to the $10,000 which is not yet paid, and which I am now advancing the money against.

I propose to add 10 per cent. to any appropriation the Council may please to make towards finishing the House of Refuge—that is to say, if the city will appropriate $100,000 in the next four years, I will give $10,000, or in proportion to what they may give. Feeling very desirous to see the house finished, and which I have no doubt will be the means of saving thousands of our poor boys and girls from destruction. In the meantime,

I remain, yours truly.

G. BROWN.

This was accordingly presented to the City Council, and the response to this munificent offer was prompt and in larger terms even than was prayed for; an appropriation for twenty-five thousand dollars being made, to be taken out of the levy for the then current year, 1853, and a like sum out of the levy for 1854. With this renewal of strength, the Board resolved to commence with the erection of the remaining wing, which was immediately done, and the remainder of the year was occupied with this and the completion of the main building.

Desirous, after so long a delay, to press on the work even more rapidly, and in order that no contract might be entered into that could not be complied with, it was therefore deemed advisable for the purpose of meeting promptly any new pecuniary responsibility that might be incurred, to apply to the City Council for an appropriation in anticipation of the time of need. This was in February, 1854. A ready compliance was made to this application by providing for the payment of fifty thousand dollars, one-half to be paid in 1855, and the other moiety in 1856. With these means at command, all doubts of an early and happy completion of the House were dispelled. This relief too, was most timely, for the public had already begun to exhibit some impatience, fearing that the enterprize would ultimately be numbered among the several fruitless attempts that had heretofore been made to establish a Refuge within our borders. The period of completion had been, it must be confessed, somewhat protracted, but at the commencement of the undertaking it had been determined to contract no debt for whose payment the means were not directly available. The cause of delay was the result of this determination, to which the Board had rigidly adhered. But the way now was clear of all obstructions, and it was resolved to complete, furnish and have the Refuge occupied by inmates in all the year 1855. This was all happily accomplished, and the House was actually opened on the 5th day of December, of that year. This very interesting event attracted a large and intelligent audience, more than sufficient, indeed, to fill the capacious chapel. The ceremonies were opened by the singing of the following hymn, written for the occasaion by one of the ladies' committee; a select choir, under the

direction of Mr. John Mason, lending its assistance with much effect:

Look from thy dwelling place, Lord, and see,
This Refuge thy blessing provided;
Here will we gather to train for Thee,
The erring, the lost, the misguided.
Wildly they roam
Thro' sins dark way, Lord;
Some without home
Wander astray, Lord;
Save them, we pray!
Here far away
From every snare, Lord;
We'd have them stay
Mercy to share, Lord;
Save them, we pray!

Friends! who have labored with us to raise
This Refuge above us towering,
Let us rejoice and give God the praise,
He blessed us, when all seemed lowering.
Let us go on,
Firm and brave hearted;
Bright breaks the dawn;
Fears have departed;
Hope smiles to-day!
Gather them in,
Lost and neglected;
Tho' marred by sin,
They'll be protected.
Gather them in!

To this followed a prayer by the Rev. Stuart Robinson, an address by Charles H. Pitts, Esq., and a benediction by the Rev. Dr. Fuller. After this inauguration, the building was thrown open for public examination, and on the following day the first inmate was received.

To provide for the immediate occupation of the Refuge as soon as completed and furnished, the City Council early in the year had made an appropriation of twelve thousand dollars, specially for the purpose of the support of the inmates until more permanent resources could be provided; and to this thoughtful forecast the Board were indebted for their ability immediately to commence their new and important labors.

And now, in reviewing this little sketch, much, very much, will be found for fervent thankfulness to that kind Providence which has blessed so signally with its aid, the labor to raise for the service of the erring young this stately monument of mercy. Much cause for gratitude will also be found in the earnest and very liberal benefactions received from the citizens of Baltimore, whose manifestations of ardent interest commenced with the re-organization of the Board, and at no time have been inactive. The City Council will find a sufficient reward for their large donations in the consciousness, that in all they have done, the public weal has been wisely cared for, and the well-being of thousands will be secured where otherwise irretrievable ruin would have followed upon their unrestrained course of early crime. And finally, in this connection, it would be most ungracious to omit to acknowledge the indebtedness of the Board to the public press, to whose ready countenance and early and continued help, they have been sustained in the public sympathy and stimulated to exertion when all around was dark and doubtful and gloomy. J. J. G.

Description of the Buildings.—The Baltimore House of Refuge is built of gneiss from quarries on the ground, with granite door and window dressing, coping and cornice, and roof of slate. Its architectural plan is simple, but extremely striking in its proportions, and wholly devoid of any thing gloomy or prison-like in its character. The whole front is 446 feet 8 inches, but this great length is agreeably broken by the projections of the ground plan and the greater elevations of the central and terminal buildings. From the front gateway to the main entrance is 108 feet, the ground ascending so rapidly in that distance as to require to be broken by three terraces, each of which is reached by a flight of granite steps. This elevation affords even from the windows of the first or principal story a fine view overlooking the entire height of the wall of enclosure, and extending over the city and surrounding country, with the river in the distance.

The main or front central building, occupied by the Superintendent with apartments for the accommodation of visitors and the managers, is 94 feet in length, by 33 feet in depth; to this is attached the nave, 111 feet in length by 44 feet in breadth. The basement or ground floor of the nave is occupied entirely by refectories for the inmates; the first or principal story is traversed by a wide passageway on which open the matron's apartments, superintendent's office, ware-room, and rooms for the apothecary and principal assistants. The passage terminates in a large room, with doors opening upon the wings, and windows in the circular end, thus giving a perfect oversight of the dormitories, as well as of the play grounds and exterior offices. This room is the central head-quarters of the establishment.

The second story has bed rooms for the officials on each side of a passage shorter than that in the principal story, and leading directly into the chapel. This is a fine, spacious hall, 78 feet long, 44 feet wide and 20 feet high, and lighted by nine large pointed windows. The speaker's platform is placed at the circular extremity directly opposite the main entrance, and the sexes are separated by a close screen, seven feet in height, each having an entrance from its respective wing. This chapel is furnished with settees, and will seat at least five hundred children.

The third story is divided into small rooms for various domestic purposes, and all the stories are reached by two flights of broad stairways, common to both the front building and the nave.

From the nave proceeds on each side a connecting passage 30 feet in length, with narrow stairways to each gallery. These are only for the use of the officers. From these passages the wings commence; these are each 137 feet long by 44 feet in width, and are occupied by the dormitories, separated by a central corridor 18 feet wide. The dormitories are each 9 feet long, 9 feet high, and 6 feet 6 inches wide, and each is lighted by a window 4 feet by 2 feet 4 inches, with iron frame and sash, with small diamond shaped glass. These apartments are fire proof, having no wood in their construction, except the door, which is of double yellow pine, with a grated opening for oversight and ventilation. There are three stories of these dormitories in the S. W. or girls' wing, containing in all 108 apartments; the fall of the ground giving four stories in the N. E. or boys' wing, with 144 apartments. These stories have each a gallery, supported by ornamented brackets, with a railing of light woven iron work, and reached by a broad iron stairway of an unbroken flight to each story. The corridors are lighted and ventilated by a half story thrown over them, in which are movable mansard windows and fixed sky lights. Large radiating stoves are used for heating.

The end buildings, which in the plan are seen to flank each wing, are each 100 feet in length by 34 feet in breadth. They are of four stories, the lower in the girls' wing contains the laundry, lavatory and baths, and the upper the infirmary and sewing room, the intermediate two stories being intended for school and work rooms. The basement of the boys' wing has a large plunge bath; the remaining rooms being used for a lavatory, school and work rooms and infirmary.

The public kitchen and bakery are in a separate frame building 70 feet in the rear of the Refuge building proper, and 70 feet long by 26 feet wide. Attached to it is an engine house, 20 feet by 16 feet. The ovens are of the most approved construction, and heated with coal. The boilers for cooking are six in number, and located in the center of the kitchen, the steam used being conducted to them from the engine house; and underneath all is a capacious vegetable cellar. The food when cooked is conveyed in small cars on a tramway to the refectory in the nave.

In the rear of the kitchen and about half way or 70 feet between that building and the rear gateway is the ice house, 26 feet square, placed entirely above ground, and built substantially upon the latest and most approved northern plan. The space between the outer and inner frame may be used as a refrigerator upon a large scale, for the preservation of fresh meats in the summer season.

The supply of water to so large an establishment is of the first importance. It is here obtained by the force of two improved rams, from a small stream running within the Refuge bounds. The distance between the dam and tank is 900 feet; the fall from the tank to the ram house is 36 feet; from the ram house to the discharge-pipe in front of the kitchen

is 650 feet, and the lift of water for that distance is 96 feet. The guage of water at the discharge-pipe, when every thing is in good order, has shown a supply from one ram equal to ten gallons per minute. This power has thrown the water to the supply tanks in the attics, some 50 feet above the discharge-pipe, at the rate of from four to six gallons per minute; but this not being either reliable or even equal to the demand, a Worthington force pump has been attached to the steam engine used for cooking. The water for this purpose is collected from the discharge-pipe into two large roofed reservoirs, situated one on each side of it. The tanks for the supply of the House are of wood, and are placed one over each connecting passage at one end of the corridors, at the height of 40 feet from the ground, and one in the attic of each building flanking the other end, at a height of 55 feet. From these, the whole house is readily supplied.

In case of failure of the stream, or from any other cause in connection with this means of supply, a well has been sunk in front of the S. W. wing to remedy such accident, and an artesian well is being bored between the kitchen and ice house.

The engine house is supplied with 400 feet of riveted hose, to be attached in case of need to the force pump, thus providing the establishment with a steam fire engine always at instant command.

The grounds within the wall are divided on a line with the front of the buildings, by plank fences of equal height with the wall itself. The front will be cultivated as a kitchen and ornamental garden. The rear is divided by fences into three compartments; the center about 100 feet wide, enclosing the kitchen and other out-buildings, and effectually separating the sexes, to each of which is appropriated one of the remaining portions as a play-ground.

The outer wall is of gneiss, of an average height of 19 feet. It encloses about 6½ acres of ground, and has but two openings, a gate in the rear and a massive gateway in the front. This structure is 44 feet 6 inches by 8 feet, and besides the great gate, includes a porter's lodge and an examining room, and is ornamented with buttresses and turrets.

The whole front of the wall is 650 feet in length, and the central depth from gate to gate is 528 feet The entire site covers about 53 acres, and is about 3½ miles from the center of the city and just without its corporate limits. The total cost of the establishment will be learned by a reference to the general statement of the treasurer.

[Note 2—page 4.]

HOUSES OF REFUGE IN THE UNITED STATES

One is often struck with the simplicity or commoness of the object that first attracted the attention of philanthropists in originating their many movements for the amelioration of human evils. This object may have passed again and again before the eyes of men, but to one alone has it generally been reserved to seize upon and work it out to great results. In tracing back to their origin the history of our Houses of Refuge for juvenile delinquents, we have a marked instance of the kind.

In another place this origin has been claimed for our own Country. Our respected colleague, the Rev. Dr. Johns, feeling much interest in the subject, on the occasion of a late visit to Europe, took some pains while in London to make special inquiries in regard to the prevalence of juvenile crime and the means pursued for its reform outside of the congregated prison system of punishment. He indeed found some imperfect schemes, but as he informed the writer, to his astonishment he soon discovered that he was the contributor rather than the receiver of information. To use his own words, "they have practically nothing in Great Britain to be compared with our own reformatory institutions; they have not even the true theory." And so, at the opening ceremonies of the new buildings of the New York House of Refuge, the Hon. Hugh Maxwell in his address observed, "even up to the present time they have not in England, houses of Refuge on the American Principle, *which it remained for Americans to discover and adopt.*"

The high distinction of originating this mission of mercy in behalf of the juvenile delinquent belongs to James W. Gerard, a member of the New York Bar, who still lives to mark the progress of his work of unsurpassed benevolence, and to reap the re-

wrd of a good conseienee in the grateful prayers of a reelaimed hst of delinquents. The incident whieh led him to the first suggtion of the need of an institution based upon the humane prinples whieh govern our houses of refuge is so concisely related b himself that we prefer to give it in his own words. The occasn is the opening of the new buildings of the Refuge on Randall's land, (New York) November, 1854, and the reporter says :

"Mr. G. went on to state that a very interesting ineident turned s mind to the subjeet of prisons for youth. That the first erimil eause he ever had, when a stripling at the bar, was to defend a ne looking, well-dressed lad, of fourteen years of age, of respectae parents in this city, on an indictment for stealing a Canary rd. The trial was had before Mr. Colden, when Mayor of the ty, and Hugh Maxwell, who had addressed them that day, was ne distriet attorney. That he, (Mr. G.,) after being ruled down his legal defence, that a Canary bird, being *ferœ naturœ*, was ot a subjeet of larceny, to save the boy from the utter destruction vhieh would ensue upon his conviction, as there was no separate rison for boys, and if convicted he would be ineareerated with ld and hardened villians, whose converse would extinguish any emaining spark of honesty in him, upon those grounds I pressed trongly upon the jury for his acquittal. The jury, having a loopnole to creep through, and pressed by the above eonsiderations, lid find him not guilty, and he was discharged. But mark the sequel. That boy's edueation had been neglected, and moral and religious instruetion he had none; his principles of right and wrong were not fixed; there was no house of refuge to send him to if convicted, where he might be reformed and saved from destruetion. Emboldened by the acquittal which had followed his first erime, when grown to man's estate, he more largely depredated upon soeiety, and five years ago I read in the public prints that that boy, now a man, had died in prison, where he was undergoing the punishment of the law for a larceny, and that while in prison he had been left a fortune of eighty thousand dollars. This ease, and others like it, led me to the conviction in my early life that something should be done to ameliorate the eondition of the youth of both sexes while in prison, and that a helping hand should be extended to them when they were discharged."

How many similar instances had been witnessed by judges a jurists and nothing more thought of the circumstance than as very common-place event. To Mr. Gerard, however it was su gestive of profound reflection, which resulted in making the subje of juvenile reform the theme of the annual report of the Socie for the Prevention of Pauperism,* February, 1823, in which he pr posed the establishment of a "House of Refuge for juvenile d linquents," *by name*. Upon this proposal, Isaac Collins, a disti guished philanthropist, since of Philadelphia, offered a resolutio for the appointment of a committee to prepare a detailed plan organization. The late John Griscom was chairman of this com mittee and presented his report in December of the same yea which was adopted, and on the 29th of March 1824 the manage were incorporated by the Legislature. This fixes the date of th organization of the *first House of Refuge for juvenile delinquent* and now what has been wrought from this beginning? Well doe Mr. G. in 1850 say, in referring back to his original report, "whe I now peruse it, I see that I foreshadowed all that has take place in reference to the House of Refuge, and all that I said an more has been realized." And still later, in 1854, he again says "within a month, he had seen the face of one, now a man, and a active man of business in this city, who had been checked in hi career by his reception into the Refuge, and by the principle which there were instilled into his mind. That as a Manager o the present Refuge for several years after its formation, he had gi ven this boy and others many a short address upon their duties and he believed that he preached as well then as he can now That boy's name he had forgotten, but his face never, and, if he re membered his name, of course he would not tell it. He is now a thriving man in this community, a much better dressed gentleman than he (Mr. G.) himself. *One such case* (and the records of the Society are full of them) *compensated for all the labor he had bestowed in aiding to form this most valuable Institution.* And doubtless, if that person sees the report of this day's proceedings, he will pour out in the gratitude of his heart a silent blessing upon those who snatched him from ruin."

To one of such noble sympathies as this gentleman, it must be most gratifying to cast his eye over the country and see the work

* The first Savings Bank emanated from this Society.

of benevolence which he originated, now performing its merciful mission from one extreme of the land, to the other. The first Refuge was opened in the City of New York in 1825, and has been twice rebuilt; the last time in 1853, on Randall's Island, and is intended to accommodate about 1000 inmates; there is another large refuge at Rochester that cost about $150,000. Pennsylvania has two at Philadelphia, one for white and another for colored inmates, costing about $350,000, and one at Pittsburg just completed at a cost of $100,000. There is one at Cincinnati which cost about $175,000, and our own in Baltimore built at a cost of $150,000. In Massachusetts there are three Reform Schools, as they are there named, and Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, have each their refuge, and there is one at New Orleans and another at St. Louis. Thus within thirty two years from the time when the establishment of these institutions was first suggested by the incident already recited, *fifteen* houses have been organized in the United States, at a cost in the aggregate of about two millions of dollars.

We have not the means at hand to give the total of capacity of all these establishments, nor, which would be most interesting, the number of inmates they have had under their guardianship from the time of their inception to the present date. In the statistics of benevolence these details would be exceedingly interesting and would not fail of being made, in connection with other incidentals, a most valuable document. Truly "the little one has become a thousand," and to him who blessed with the quick perception first to note this pervading element in human suffering had also the heart to sympathize with the sufferer and the head to devise this most excellent remedy for his relief, should be awarded a place by the side of Howard and Raikes, in the noble rank of wise and practical philanthropists. Fifteen edifices, most of them of the stateliest structure and devoted to the best of causes, stand each as an enduring monument to his fame; but eternity alone can disclose the grand result of all this work of true reform written deep in the souls of the numberless reclaimed delinquents who have been snatched by the hand of kindness from their early career of crime to become virtuous and reputable citizens, and it may well be hoped, the sure inheritors of a happy and unending future. J. J. G.

[Note 3—page 12.]

GUARDIANSHIP.

Says, an eminent judge in referring to juvenile delinquents:

"These unhappy little victims of neglect, or shameful abuse of authority, are hardly proper subjects of punishment—their offences are not their own—they have never been taught the laws of God or man, or, if they have, it has been only that they may despise them.

"If any punishment should be inflicted, the rod of the master would be more suitable than the prison, where their bodies and minds will be equally cramped, and become incapable of any change but that of distortion and disease. What more terrible than to immure, in the physically and morally foul apartments of a jail, a child of tender years, without means of instruction or information, and then to turn him into the world with an atmosphere about him, which will repel every thing fitted to purify his body or his soul! Is it not certain that such an outcast will return to his wallowing, and accumulate filth and crime, till he has become fit for the State Prison or the gallows?"

Now, it is just here that the Refuge system of reform is demanded; its prominent object is not only to protect the young delinquent from the convict stamp of the prison, but to prevent in advance, as far as possible, his public trial, conviction and formal sentence. It steps in as his friend and upon a commitment by a magistrate we assume his guardianship, our charter placing us in the stead of the parent with control over him during his legal minority. How well this authority is sustained by the courts, may be seen by the following decision which is here given not only in illustration of the character of that guardianship but also for convenience of reference should any similar case arise for our action.

DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

December Term, 1838.

[Ex parte Crouse—Habeas Corpus.]

Per Curiam—The House of Refuge is not a prison but a school; where reformation and not punishment is the end. It may indeed be used as a prison for juvenile convicts who would else be committed to a common jail; and in respect to these, the constitutionality of the act which incorporated it stands clear of controversy. It is only in respect of the application of its discipline to subjects admitted on the order of a court, a magistrate, or the managers of the Almshouse, that a doubt is entertained. The object of the charity is reformation, by training its inmates to industry; by imbuing their minds with principles of morality and religion; by furnishing them with means to earn a living; and, above all, by seperating them from the corrupting influence of improper associates. To this end, may not the natural parents when unequal to the task of education, or unworthy of it, be superseded by the *parens patriæ* or common guardian of the community? It is to be remembered that the public has a paramount interest in the virtue and knowledge of its members, and that, of strict right, the business of education belongs to it. That parents are ordinarily intrusted with it, is because it can seldom be put into better hands: but where they are incompetent or corrupt, what is there to prevent the public from withdrawing their faculties, held, as they obviously are, at its sufferance? The right of parental control is a natural but not an unalienable one. It is not excepted by the Declaration of Rights out of the subjects of ordinary legislation; and it consequently remains subject to the ordinary legislative power, which, if wantonly or inconveniently used, would soon be constitutionally restricted, but the competency of which, as the government is constituted, cannot be doubted. As to abridgement of indefeasible rights by confinement of the person, it is no more than what is borne, to a greater or less extent, in every school; and we know of no natural right to exemption from restraints which conduce to an infant's welfare. Nor is there a doubt of the propriety of their application in the particular instance. The infant has been snatched from a course which must have ended in confirmed depravity; and, not only is the restraint of her person lawful, but it would be an act of extreme cruelty to release her from it.

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Tiffany, O. C., ...50
Tiffany, Long & Byrne, ... 50
Trust, Jacob,.....20
Turner, John C., ...10

V

Von Kapff, Frederick $50

W

Wilson, Wm. & Sons,.....$250
Wyman, Appleton & Co.,....250
Wright, Edward,.....200
Wilson, Thomas & Co.,.....100
Wilson, S. C.,.....100
Wilson, Dr. Wm. T.,.....100
Wilson, Rev. Franklin,.....100
Wilson, James H., ...100
Wilson, Young & Co.,.....100
Wyman & Co.,.....100
Wethered & Brothers,.....100
Williams, James, ...100
Winans, Ross, ...100
Whitridge, Thomas,.....100
White, Miles, ...100
Wright, William H. D. C....100
Woodward, Wm. & Co.,.....50
Warfield, D. & Son,.....50
Williams, John 50
Walker, Noah & Co.,.....50
Wagner, P. E.,.....50
Whitely, McConkey & Co., ..50
Wysham, E. C.,.....50
Whitelock, William,.....5

Y

Yates, Joseph C. $100
Yardly, Charles, F.,.....10

Amount subscribed and paid,.....$29,468 50.